

a1 pump is operable in response to a detected occlusion to reverse the drive applied to move said plunger along said barrel sufficiently until the force detected by said force sensor falls by a predetermined amount.

4. (Amended) A pump according to Claim 1, wherein the pump is arranged to reverse the drive until force detected by said force sensor is substantially 10% of the force at which an occlusion is detected.

42 5. (Amended) A syringe pump adapted to receive a syringe having a plunger movable along a barrel, the pump comprising: a drive mechanism, said drive mechanism including a motor, a leadscrew driven by said motor and a plunger retainer movable along the leadscrew such as to move said plunger along said barrel; and a force sensor mounted with said plunger retainer to detect excess force on said plunger, wherein the pump is operable in response to an output from said force sensor indicative of an excess force to reverse said motor until the output of said force sensor indicates an absence of an excessive force.

9. (Amended) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the pump generates an alarm when force on said plunger exceeds a predetermined value.

43 10. (Amended) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the pump only reapplies force to dispense medication when the pump is manually restarted after detection of an occlusion.

Remarks

The following is a response to the Office Action dated October 7, 2002.